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The correct name of the West African subspecies of African Lemon Dove *Columba larvata*

by John Penhallurick

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Until the publication of Baptista *et al.* (1997) the subspecies of African Lemon Dove *Columba larvata* Temminck, 1810, which occurs from Sierra Leone east to Congo-Brazzaville, was known as *Columba* (previously *Aplopelia*) *larvata inornata*, based on *Haplopelia inornata* Reichenow, 1892, *Allgemeine Deutsche Ornithologische Gesellschaft zu Berlin*, Bericht, Febr. Sitzung: 6 (type locality: Buea, 950 m, Cameroon Range). Note that some authorities cite this name as Reichenow, 1892, *Journal für Ornithologie* 40: 221, but this issue was published in April 1892, whereas the citation from the *Allgemeine Deutsche Ornithologische Gesellschaft zu Berlin* was published on 19 February.

Baptista *et al.* (1997: 131) noted that with the transfer of African Lemon Dove from *Aplopelia* Bonaparte, 1855, to *Columba* Linnaeus, 1758, Reichenow's *inornata* became preoccupied through secondary homonymy (ICZN 1999, Art. 57.3) in *Columba* by *inornata* Vigors, 1827, the basis of Plain Pigeon, whose type locality is 'near Havana, Cuba'. Accordingly, they replaced Reichenow's name with *Columba larvata hypoleuca*, based on what they assumed to be the next available name: *Haplopelia hypoleuca* Salvadori, 1903, *Memorie della Reale Accademia delle Scienze di Torino*, ser. 2, 53: 96 (island of Annobón). This was accepted by Dickinson (2003: 160). I am grateful to R. J. Dowsett for pointing out that Annobón's location, the paucity of specimens from that island, and that because a different subspecies, *principalis* (Hartlaub, 1866) occurs on São Tome, just north of Annobón, it is not certain that *hypoleuca* is appropriate for West African birds.

However, with the transfer of all New World species previously placed in *Columba* to *Patagioenas* Reichenbach, 1853 (*cf.* Johnson & Clayton 2000), secondary homonymy between *inornata* Reichenow and *inornata* Vigors ceases (ICZN 1999, Art. 59.4; Morel *et al.* 1986). Thus the name of the West African subspecies of the African Lemon Dove should revert to *Columba larvata inornata* (Reichenow, 1892).

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The authorship of the name *Lophornis Verreauxii*; that of a subspecies of Festive Coquette

by Edward C. Dickinson

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There has been justifiable confusion regarding the authorship of the name of this hummingbird. Described on p. 193 of the 1853 *Revue et Magasin de Zoologie* (hereafter *Revue*), the name appeared as *Lophornis Verreauxii*, Bourc., par MM. Jules et Ed. Verreaux. Peters (1945: 32) ascribed the name to 'Bourcier and E. Verreaux'. Zimmer (1950: 17) ascribed the name to 'J. and E. Verreaux'. Zimmer wrote: 'The paper comprising the original description was undoubtedly written by Jules and Edouard Verreaux, although they cite Bourcier as authority for the name, probably from the label of the type. They appear as authors of the paper also in the list of contents at the end of the number of the *Revue* in which it appeared, but in the index to the entire volume Bourcier is given as the author of the paper and the name. In Mulsant and Verreaux's "Histoire naturelle des oiseaux-mouches" (vol. 3, p. 221) Boucier is cited as authority for the name, but on page 229, in a bibliography of papers by J. and E. Verreaux, the title of the original article again appears. Although there is no doubt that Bourcier planned to honor Edouard Verreaux by naming this bird for him, I see no way he can be credited even as part author since he had no connection with the original publication.' Zimmer's attribution was understandably retained by Züchner (1999: 568).

Zimmer was a remarkably accurate bibliographer; he may have missed the vital evidence which explains why the index to that volume of the *Revue* listed Bourcier as the author, or he may have judged that the rules of nomenclature then in use did not demand acceptance of Bourcier. The new name appeared in the May issue. In the June issue the final page, p. 288, included two errata and below them the following note: 'MM. J et Ed. Verreaux nous demandent de rectifier une erreur qui a été commise en imprimant leurs noms à la suite de celui de M. Bourcier. C'est à M. Bourcier seul qu'est due la description du *Lophornis Verreauxii*, page 193, pl. 6'.